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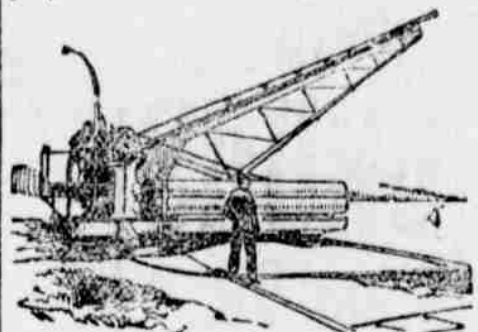
DYNAMITE GUNS.

Uncle Sam Awards a Contract for Seven of Them.

JUST WHEN THEY WILL BE BUILT NOT YET KNOWN.

Several Foreign Governments Anxious to Buy the Vesuvius, the United States Not Likely to Permit this Deadly Mode of Warfare to Escape Us—Work Progressing on the Chicago.

New York, Feb. 9.—The news that the secretary of war has awarded the Pneumatic Dynamite Gun company the contract for seven guns for coast defense was little else than was expected by the officers of the company.



ZALINSKI'S GUN

The contract calls for three guns for Sandy Hook, two for Fort Schuyler and two for Fort Warren, Mass. As the peculiarities presented by the fifteen-inch gun now mounted at Fort Lafayette are virtually specified, the guns must be capable of elevation and depression by either pneumatic or hydraulic power, and have an extreme elevation of at least thirty-five degrees. They must be capable of an all around fire, or through 360 degrees, the training and elevating to be wholly under the control of the gunner in charge.

The range of fire is also specified, the extreme demanded being a mile. Rapidity of fire is also called for, being a requirement not demanded in the recent tests of the stationary gun. The delivery of these guns ready for mounting must be made within eight months of the time of execution of contract. The sum of money as bid by the Pneumatic Dynamite company is \$395,500.

Just where the guns will be built is not yet known. The fifteen-inch gun at Fort Lafayette was turned out by the Cramps of Philadelphia, while the eight-inch gun, which destroyed the Silliman, was built by an iron firm of Jersey City. The three guns to be mounted at Sandy Hook will consist of one of eight-inch and two of fifteen-inch calibre. It is not at all unlikely that the eight-inch and fifteen-inch guns now at Fort Lafayette will be mounted there. The fifteen-inch gun from which the recent tests were made was built with the original intention of being mounted at Spezia, Italy.

But the Pneumatic Dynamite Gun company, having bid for the work of the seven new guns, decided to retain this gun for this country until at least it was known that the government had decided not to adopt dynamite guns for the coast defenses. It is becoming a well known fact in military circles that foreign governments are endeavoring to negotiate for dynamite guns and dynamite cruisers with manufacturers in this country.

It is known that the Cramps have received offers as high as \$500,000 for the Vesuvius, and this in face of the fact that the United States government is only paying \$350,000 for her. But the Cramps are not at liberty to negotiate with other governments for the purchase of the Vesuvius, inasmuch as nine-tenths of the contract price has already been paid down for her, the remaining tenth to be paid as a final acceptance of the vessel.

There is no doubt the Cramps would like to sell the Vesuvius elsewhere, inasmuch as they are known to be out by about \$100,000 on the contract. But all stories to the effect that they are considering offers from foreign governments are absurd, there being no possible chance for the Cramps to avail themselves of any such opportunity before the secretary of the navy has declined to accept the vessel. The Vesuvius having fulfilled all the requirements of speed tests, there remains nothing now but acceptance on the part of the government.

The success of the Vesuvius has contributed to the success of the dynamite gun inasmuch as vessel and gun appear inseparable. This double success is looked upon by foreign governments as a matter of the very greatest importance, and military men in this country feel sure from the number of emissaries of foreign governments now in this country inquiring into the features of gun and vessel, that Italians, Russians, Spaniards and French will have dynamite guns in their coast defense system before many months have passed.

There is, of course, nothing at present to hinder the dynamite gun people from furnishing a thousand guns to foreign governments, and all that is now to be feared in this country is the possible lethargy of the national representatives to adopt the measures and plans for coast defense recommended by the military boards, whereby dynamite guns will continue one of the main features.

Capt. E. L. Zalinski, whose name is coupled with the dynamite gun, leaves very soon for Europe, ostensibly for pleasure and recreation. It is hard to understand how one so busy as Capt. Zalinski can partake of pleasure just at the present, and some believe that his European trip will partake of the nature of a tour. Avery's mission to foreign governments to present the Hotchkiss gun.

At any rate it now looks as if the dynamite gun is not to escape this government and go abroad, as did the Hotchkiss revolving cannon. The awarding of the sea coast guns to the Pneumatic Dynamite Gun company looks as if more were to follow, and leads to the belief that the recent official trial at Fort Lafayette was accepted by the government as successful.

The cruiser Chicago still remains at the New York navy yard, where work on her

battery is being carried on under the direction of the ordnance bureau. A few months ago it was said at the navy department that she would be fitted up and sent to the Mediterranean as the flag ship of the European station about January 1, but trouble arising at Hayti and Samoa the department turned its attention to getting vessels off to these two points, and it is said now that the Chicago will probably remain at New York until some time in June.

There is no reason why she should be hurried away, and one of her eight-inch guns has been detained at the proving ground at Annapolis for making some powder tests. In the meantime if an urgent necessity should arise the vessel could be sent to sea at a few days' notice, and her powerful battery would not be much less effective for the lack of one gun.

THE WASHINGTON CENTENNIAL.

Program of the Exercises to be Held in New York City Next April.

New York, Feb. 9.—A meeting of the plan and scope committee on the centennial of Washington's inauguration was held Thursday afternoon. It was decided that troops from the regular army should conduct the president from the foot of Wall street to the Equitable building on April 29. The naval display in the morning and the reception given to the president and all the commissioners from the different states would represent the national aspect of the celebration, as the militia, on the next day, the 30th, would represent the city and the states.

The committee also decided that the committee on general government and transportation should have charge of the president from Washington to Elizabeth, the committee on navy from Elizabeth to Wall street, the committee on states from the foot of Wall street to the reception in the Equitable building, and afterwards to the public reception in the city hall, and the entertainment committee until the afternoon. On Tuesday morning the committee on states will escort the president to the services in St. Paul's church, where he will be taken charge of by the St. Paul's church committee.

The committee on literary exercises will conduct the president from St. Paul's church to the steps of the sub-treasury. The president will then be turned over to the army committee, who will have charge of him during the military parade and turn him over to the entertainment committee in the afternoon. The army committee will also have charge of the president the next day, on the occasion of the industrial parade.

LEGISLATURES.

Ohio.

Senate—Bills passed: Allowing bridges to be constructed over alleys; authorizing railroads to be ward boundaries; making appropriations for common schools; preventing the wasting of natural gas; allowing salaries to the board of pardons; authorizing mayors to solemnize marriages; cutting off the salaries of intermediate penitentiary managers; reducing the levy for the state sinking fund; requiring chattel mortgages to be refiled; to erect a monument to the Andrews raiders. Bills introduced: Providing for the printing of duplicates of trial dockets; requiring county commissioners to advertise for wood work above \$500, and all building contracts in excess of \$500.

House—Troyton's road bill was referred to a select committee. The Southern railroad bill was postponed until next Wednesday. The bill regulating telephone charges was defeated.

Indiana.

In the house the Peyton-John contested election case was considered. John was unseated by a vote of 50 to 47.

In the senate the Andrew election bill was discussed at length, seventeen of the sixty-six sections being acted upon. A bill was passed to repeal the statute prohibiting a wife from legally becoming a surety or guarantor of any bond or contract.

Mr. Blaine's Place of Residence.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—In an interview published in a local paper, Mr. Blaine denies that he has leased the old Seward mansion, and states that he has not yet decided what house he will take. William Walter Phelps says that he had leased it, and that he was now consulting with the architects as to what alterations should be made. The reason Mr. Blaine does not live in his own house in this city is because he has none. The house known as the "Blaine mansion," and which is now occupied by Mr. Leiter, does not belong to him, but has been the property of William Walter Phelps for several years.

Annexation.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—A Herald special from Ottawa says: It is reported on the best authority that at the conclusion of the present session of the Federal legislature, the government will appeal to the country on the annexation question. Sir John Macdonald, premier, and the leader of the government, will retire from public life, and Sir Charles Tupper, present Canadian commissioner in England, will assume the leadership of the Conservative party.

Stood the Test.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Feb. 9.—The Thurlow steel gun was tested Thursday afternoon at the naval proving grounds, and stood the governmental test. It is 195 inches in length, six inches in bore, and 13,135 pounds in weight. The first two shots were with thirty-six pounds of powder and one hundred-pound shells. The next ten followed with forty-eight, and one-half pounds of powder and one hundred-pound shells. The gun stood the test.

The Storm in Canada.

MONTREAL, Feb. 9.—The present storm is pronounced by railroad men as one of the worst they have ever experienced. The New York trains have all been more or less delayed, and the passengers have suffered some from cold and hunger. The thermometer has not been above 10 degrees below zero in this city since Monday, and the streets are almost impassable with snow drifts.

Gone to Canada.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 9.—Henry Dieckmann, a prominent member of the Merchants' exchange is said to have fled to Canada, leaving a shortage of \$50,000. His sudden flight was brought about by the instituting of a suit for \$30,000 against him.

DOUBLE SUICIDE.

Another Story Regarding the Crown Prince's Death.

HE HAD BEEN INTIMATE WITH A BARONESS FOR MONTHS.

And They Had Resolved to Die Together.

Both Are Found Dead in the Room of the Royal Lover at Meyerling—The Death Chamber to be Converted into a Chapel by the Church.

VIENNA, Feb. 9.—The following is another account of the circumstances attending the death of Crown Prince Rudolph:

Rudolph had courted Baroness Marie Vetsera for four months. The liaison, it is stated, was encouraged by Countess Wallersee-Larisch, a niece of the empress, Marie, who was of a romantic disposition and nervous temperament, was devoted to Rudolph. On January 28 the pair started in a two-horse closed carriage for Meyerling, where they passed the next day together.

On the morning of January 30 the two were found dead in bed. Marie had been shot through the forehead. Rudolph had also been shot, as already described. It was evident that the two had resolved to die together. The coverlet was strewn with flowers. The body of Marie was secretly taken to a cottage and thence removed for interment.

The Vetsera family left Vienna on Saturday for Venice.

A dispatch from Rome, relative to the late crown prince, says: "The first telegram received at the Vatican simply announced the death of Rudolph. To this telegram the pope himself wrote a four line reply, an act that was especially noteworthy, the pope being hardly able to hold a pen. On the following day a long telegram told how Rudolph had agreed to decide a quarrel by a duel with dice, how he had lost, and, in compliance with the terms of the contest, had taken his own life. His holiness immediately summoned a conclave of cardinals. After a long discussion it was decided that only one deranged could enter into such a duel. This decision having been arrived at, permission to bury the dead prince with religious rites was granted. Emperor Francis Joseph received the news with the deepest gratitude, and sent a dispatch in reply, saying that his holiness had spared him the greatest grief."

The Fremdenblatt says: "Persons in Emperor William's entourage attest that Emperor William, again and again, by word and act, has expressed his grief at the death of Crown Prince Rudolph. Emperor William, with the empress, spent the funeral hour in a private visit to the Austrian ambassador, when the emperor talked continually in terms that betrayed the depth of his feelings for the departed crown prince and of their close friendship. On leaving the embassy their majesties again prayed the ambassador to convey their heartfelt sympathies to Emperor Francis Joseph."

It is reported that the emperor has ordered that all the furniture and other belongings of Rudolph at Meyerling be brought here. The convent of Heiligen Kreuz, to which Meyerling castle belonged, will exercise the right to repurchase the property in accordance with clauses in the purchase contracts. The priests, in accordance with the emperor's desire, will turn the death chamber into a chapel, in which they will hold requiem services yearly on the anniversaries of the birth and death of Rudolph.

Believed to Be Correct.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—The story of Rudolph's liaison with Baroness Marie Vetsera is generally credited here, and it is believed that the truth of the affair has come out finally.

AN UNNAMED PHILANTHROPIST

Proposes to Found a Great University in Either New York or Chicago.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—In a sermon at the Church of the Holy Communion last Sunday the rector, Henry Mollett, D.D., said:

"I cannot use any names, but I have it upon very good authority that a New York gentleman intends soon to surprise this city or Chicago with the gift of \$30,000,000 for a great university. He has discussed his intention with friends of mine."

When questioned regarding this statement Dr. Mollett said that under the circumstances it would be a breach of confidence to say anything more definite at present. It is learned, however, that at a recent dinner party this remarkable project was mentioned by a prominent professional gentleman, who said he had been consulted in the matter, but no names were given. The prediction is made that the plan will soon be made public.

The magnitude of the project might well suggest the name of Vanderbilt, but Chauncey M. Depew says he is very certain Cornelius Vanderbilt contemplated no such gift, and if he did, would naturally prefer to increase the endowment of Vanderbilt university.

War Heroine Dead.

BEVERLY, Mass., Feb. 9.—Information reached here Thursday of the death of Mrs. Maria F. Montgomery, widow of Gen. Bacon Montgomery, of St. Joseph, Mo., and daughter of the late George A. Homans, of Beverly. Mrs. Montgomery distinguished herself during the war by conveying dispatches to Gen. Lyons. She was once suspected and searched by the Confederates, but the dispatches, which were concealed between the sole of her foot and her stocking, escaped detection, and she afterward delivered them in person to Gen. Lyons.

Cotton Mill Burned.

WORCESTER, Mass., Feb. 9.—The Riverdale cotton mill at North Bridge, owned and operated by the Paul Witham Manufacturing company, caught fire at 6 o'clock this morning, and despite the efforts of the firemen, aided by the "sprinklers" in the building, the mill was a total loss.

Bucket Shop Suspended.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—The bucket shop of Holman, Sprague & Skidmore, on New street, has suspended.

EUROPEAN NEWS.

Fire in the Madrid Military Hospital. Other Foreign Notes.

MADRID, Feb. 9.—A fire in the military hospital here caused panic among the patients, 430 of whom were undergoing treatment in that institution. The doctors and nurses, however, stuck pluckily to their posts and succeeded in removing all the inmates in safety.

The governor of Madrid especially distinguished himself in the work of rescue, carrying several patients, suffering from contagious diseases, to the military barracks near by. A wing of the hospital was wholly consumed before the flames were controlled. No deaths among the patients resulted from the exposure to which they were subjected while being removed.

And the End is Not Yet.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—The troubles of the French cabinet are by no means over yet. Boulangerism proves too great a bete noir for some of the ministry, and rather than cope with it in what they consider a losing struggle they will resign. Further resignations are expected shortly, the general impression being that the members so inclined are merely retaining their portfolios until M. Floquet can determine suitable successors for them.

Arms Stolen.

DUBLIN, Feb. 9.—Thursday night, while the jail at Downpatrick was guarded by soldiers and police, the jail armory was entered by unknown persons and all the carbines were stolen.

Rich Gift to the German Empress.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—It is announced that the late Duchess of Calabera bequeathed to the Empress Frederick, of Germany, all the pearls and precious stones in her possession.

Kuhn En Route to America.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—Kuhn, charged with having murdered a man in Wisconsin, has been handed over to the United States authorities and started for New York Thursday.

Foreign Notes.

Count William Bismarck has been appointed president of the Province of Hanover.

King Humbert has signed a decree, authorizing the formation of a National museum of antiquities at Rome.

Summons have been served upon Mr. William O'Brien, who is now in Clonmel jail, for the speeches which he made at Kenmare.

The budget committee of the Russian diet adopted the bill increasing the emperor's dotation. Herron Virchow and Richter dissented.

Gen. Boulanger is about to proceed in the civil courts with his suit for divorce. There is every chance of his succeeding in his case in Paris.

It is now denied that the duke of Aosta's son, Emmanuel, is to marry the Archduchess Margaret, of Austria, the daughter of Archduke Charles Louis.

A cable dispatch from Spain announces that Gen. Salamanca, who has been appointed governor general of Cuba, will leave Spain for Cuba on the 20th inst.

The Dublin Express states that Mr. Parnell's health is very precarious and that the carriage of his physician is often seen at the door of his villa at Streatham, from whence the Irish leader seldom emerges of late.

Some of the most noted Radical leaders will address the meeting to be held in Hyde park on Sunday. Elaborate preparations have been made for the event, and Mr. William Saunders, Charles Bradlaugh and others are expected to speak.

END OF A LONG SLEEP.

Mrs. Althouse Awakens From a Trance After Thirty-Five Days.

ATTICA, N. Y., Feb. 9.—Mrs. Emma Althouse, the sleeping woman, awakened yesterday from her last trance, having slept thirty-five days and a few hours. For the past few days she has shown signs that the crisis, whether she would wake or not, was approaching. After what appeared to be a struggle she opened her eyes, her nose bled freely and her breathing increased in force and rapidity until the respiration exceeded fifty a minute. Her temperature was ordinary, about ninety-eight, the pulse unsteady and fluctuating.

Mrs. Althouse was very weak, and several fainting fits followed her awakening. Some nourishment, the first since January 2, was then given her. She was, up to this morning, only able to communicate with her attendants by motions of the head in reply to questions, but is reported as gaining strength rapidly.

A LEAKING GAS PIPE.

Several Narrow Escapes From Asphyxiation in New York City.

NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—The gas service pipe from the street to the cellar of the four-story tenement, 241 East Seventy-fifth street, leaked during the night, and the gas filled the building, with no one to warn the sleepers. When daybreak came five of them were found senseless in their beds, and a dozen were ill without knowing the reason why. James Regan and his wife, Mary, and their boarder, Alice O'Neil, were taken out to all appearances dead. Mary Regan and Miss O'Neil were taken to the Presbyterian hospital. Their lives will probably be saved. James Regan revived in the open air, and is all right. On the first floor Mary and Anthony May, seventeen and fifteen years old, were senseless when taken from their beds. They, too, recovered under simple medical treatment in the open air. The police are investigating the matter.

Builder of the Monitor's Engines Dead. NEW YORK, Feb. 9.—Cornelius H. De Lannier, builder of the engines for the original Ericsson Monitor and the founder of the De Lannier iron works, died Thursday night of pneumonia after a brief illness. He leaves a widow and six children.

Hydrophobia From a Cat.

ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 9.—Henry Wornack, living near Social Circle, was bitten by a rabid cat about one month ago. He died Wednesday, after undergoing all the horrors incident to hydrophobia.